

IN THE CLAIMS

1: (Currently Amended) A communication system, comprising:

a base transceiver station engaged in wireless communication with a first mobile unit and carrying data being transmitted between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit; and

~~an other communication~~ a communication device in communication with the base transceiver station over a local network, wherein a call anchor function for the data is dynamically relocated to one of the base transceiver station and the other communication device are dynamically selected, by a selection procedure during data transmission between the first and second mobile units, ~~to perform a call anchor function for the data,~~ the selection procedure ~~comprising~~ including determining a communication characteristic ~~comprising~~ having at least one of:

a traffic characteristic of the data, and

a characteristic of wireless communication between the base transceiver station and at least one of the first and second mobile units.

2. (Currently Amended) A communication system, comprising:

a base transceiver station engaged in wireless communication with a first mobile unit and carrying data being transmitted between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit; and

a communication device in communication with the base transceiver station over a local network, wherein one of the base transceiver station and the ~~other~~ communication device are dynamically selected, by a selection procedure, to perform a call anchor function for the data, the selection procedure comprising:

determining a communication characteristic comprising at least one of a traffic characteristic of the data and a characteristic of wireless communication between the base transceiver station and at least one of the first and second mobile units; ~~A system according to claim 1, wherein the selection procedure further comprises:~~

using the communication characteristic to determine a wireless savings amount comprising an amount of wireless resource savings associated with performing the call anchor function by the ~~other~~ communication device;

using the communication characteristic to determine a backhaul cost amount comprising an amount of backhaul resource cost associated with performing the call anchor function by the ~~other~~ communication device;

selecting the ~~other~~ communication device if the wireless savings amount exceeds the backhaul cost amount; and

selecting the base transceiver station if the backhaul cost amount exceeds the wireless savings amount.

3. (Original) A system according to claim 1, the selection procedure being performed for a first communication session, thereby generating a first selection result, the selection procedure being further performed for a second communication session, thereby generating a second selection result, and the first and second selection results being independent from each other.

4. (Original) A system according to claim 3, wherein the selection procedure is performed exactly once for at least one of the first and second communication sessions.

5. (Original) A system according to claim 3, wherein the selection procedure is performed at least twice for at least one of the first and second communication sessions.

6. (Currently Amended) A communication system, comprising a base transceiver station engaged in wireless communication with a first mobile unit and performing the steps of:

carrying data being transmitted between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit; and

performing a call anchor function for the data;

relocating the call anchor function during data transmission between the first and second mobile units to a different device in the communication system in response to a communication characteristic of the data.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating, comprising:

using a base transceiver station to engage in wireless communication with a first mobile unit;

using the base transceiver station to carry data being transmitted between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit;

using ~~an other communication~~ a communication device to communicate with the base transceiver station over a local network;

determining a communication characteristic comprising at least one of:

a traffic characteristic of the data, and

a characteristic of wireless communication between the base transceiver station and at least one of the first and second mobile units; and

using the communication characteristic to dynamically ~~select~~ relocate a call anchor function for the data to one of the base transceiver station and the ~~other~~ communication device during data transmission between the first and second mobile units ~~to perform a call anchor function for the data.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating, comprising:

using a base transceiver station to engage in wireless communication with a first mobile unit;

using the base transceiver station to carry data being transmitted between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit;

using a communication device to communicate with the base transceiver station over a local network;

determining a communication characteristic comprising at least one of:

a traffic characteristic of the data, and

a characteristic of wireless communication between the base transceiver station and at least one of the first and second mobile units;

using the communication characteristic to dynamically select one of the base transceiver station and the ~~other~~ communication device to perform a call anchor function for the data, A method according to claim 7, wherein the step of using the communication characteristic comprises:

using the communication characteristic to determine a wireless savings amount comprising an amount of wireless resource savings associated with performing the call anchor function by the ~~other~~ communication device;

using the communication characteristic to determine a backhaul cost amount comprising an amount of backhaul resource cost associated with performing the call anchor function by the ~~other~~ communication device;

selecting the ~~other~~ communication device if the wireless savings amount exceeds the backhaul cost amount; and

selecting the base transceiver station if the backhaul cost amount exceeds the wireless savings amount.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 7, the step of using the communication characteristic being performed for a first communication session, thereby generating a first selection result, the step of dynamically selecting being further performed for a second communication session, thereby generating a second selection result, and the first and second selection results being independent from each other.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the step of using the communication characteristic is performed exactly once for at least one of the first and second communication sessions.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the step of using the communication characteristic is performed at least twice for at least one of the first and second communication sessions.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for communicating, comprising:

using a base transceiver station in a communication system to engage in wireless communication with a first mobile unit;

using the base transceiver station to carry data being transmitted between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit; and

using the base transceiver station to perform a call anchor function for the data;

relocating the call anchor function from the base transceiver station to a different device in the communication system during data transmission between the first and second mobile units in response to a communication characteristic of the data.

13. (Currently Amended) A communication system, comprising:

means for engaging in wireless communication with a first mobile unit, the means for engaging in wireless communication comprising means for carrying data transmitted in a communication session between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit;

means for communicating with the means for engaging in wireless communication;

means for determining a communication characteristic comprising at least one of:

a traffic characteristic of the data, and

a characteristic of wireless communication between the means for engaging in wireless communication and at least one of the first and second mobile units; and

means for using the communication characteristic to dynamically ~~select~~ relocate a call anchor function for the data during data transmission between the first and second mobile units to one of the means for communicating and the means for engaging in wireless communication ~~to include means for anchoring the communication session.~~

14. (Currently Amended) A communication system,
comprising:

means for engaging in wireless communication with a first
mobile unit, the means for engaging in wireless communication
comprising means for carrying data transmitted in a
communication session between the first mobile unit and a
second mobile unit;

means for communicating with the means for engaging in
wireless communication;

means for determining a communication characteristic
comprising at least one of a traffic characteristic of the
data and a characteristic of wireless communication between
the means for engaging in wireless communication and at least
one of the first and second mobile units;

means for using the communication characteristic to
dynamically select one of the means for communicating and the
means for engaging in wireless communication to include means
for anchoring the communication session, ~~A system according to~~
~~claim 13,~~ wherein the means for using the communication
characteristic to dynamically select comprises:

means for using the communication characteristic to
determine a wireless savings amount comprising an amount of
wireless resource savings associated with performing the call
anchor function by the ~~other~~ communication device;

means for using the communication characteristic to
determine a backhaul cost amount comprising an amount of
backhaul resource cost associated with performing the call
anchor function by the ~~other~~ communication device;

means for selecting the ~~other~~ communication device
if the wireless savings amount exceeds the backhaul cost
amount; and

means for selecting the base transceiver station if
the backhaul cost amount exceeds the wireless savings amount.

15. (Original) A system according to claim 13, wherein the means for using the communication characteristic to dynamically select comprises:

first means for generating a first anchoring means selection result for a first communication session; and

second means for generating a second anchoring means selection result for a second communication session, the first and second anchoring means selection results being independent from each other.

16. (Original) A system according to claim 15, wherein at least one of the first and second means for generating generates exactly one anchoring means selection result.

17. (Original) A system according to claim 15, wherein at least one of the first and second means for generating generates at least two anchoring means selection results.

18. (Currently Amended) A communication system, comprising means for engaging in wireless communication with a first mobile unit, the means for engaging in wireless communication comprising:

means for carrying data transmitted in a communication session between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit; and

means for anchoring the communication session;

means for relocating a call anchor function to a different device in the communication system during data transmission between the first and second mobile unit in response to a communication characteristic of the data.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having a set of instructions operable to direct a processor to perform the steps of:

using a base transceiver station to engage in wireless communication with a first mobile unit;

using the base transceiver station to carry data being transmitted between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit;

using ~~an other communication~~ a communication device to communicate with the base transceiver station over a local network;

determining a communication characteristic comprising at least one of:

a traffic characteristic of the data,

a characteristic of wireless communication between the base transceiver station and at least one of the first and second mobile units; and

using the communication characteristic to dynamically ~~select~~ relocate a call anchor function for the data during data transmission between the first and second mobile units to one of the base transceiver station and the ~~other~~ communication device ~~to perform a call anchor function for the data.~~

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having a set of instructions operable to direct a processor to perform the steps of:

using a base transceiver station to engage in wireless communication with a first mobile unit;

using the base transceiver station to carry data being transmitted between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit;

using an ~~ether~~ communication device to communicate with the base transceiver station;

determining a communication characteristic comprising at least one of a traffic characteristic of the data and a characteristic of wireless communication between the base transceiver station and at least one of the first and second mobile units; and

using the communication characteristic to dynamically select one of the base transceiver station and the ~~ether~~ communication device to perform a call anchor function for the data, ~~A computer-readable medium according to claim 19,~~ wherein the step of using the communication characteristic comprises:

using the communication characteristic to determine a wireless savings amount comprising an amount of wireless resource savings associated with performing the call anchor function by the ~~ether~~ communication device;

using the communication characteristic to determine a backhaul cost amount comprising an amount of backhaul resource cost associated with performing the call anchor function by the ~~ether~~ communication device;

selecting the ~~ether~~ communication device if the wireless savings amount exceeds the backhaul cost amount; and

selecting the base transceiver station if the backhaul cost amount exceeds the wireless savings amount.

21. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to claim 19, the step of using the communication characteristic being performed for a first communication session, thereby generating a first selection result, the step of dynamically selecting being further performed for a second communication session, thereby generating a second selection result, and the first and second selection results being independent from each other.

22. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to claim 21, wherein the step of using the communication characteristic is performed exactly once for at least one of the first and second communication sessions.

23. (Original) A computer-readable medium according to claim 21, wherein the step of using the communication characteristic is performed at least twice for at least one of the first and second communication sessions.

24. (Original) A computer-readable medium having a set of instructions operable to direct a processor to perform the steps of:

using a base transceiver station in a communication system to engage in wireless communication with a first mobile unit;

using the base transceiver station to carry data being transmitted between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit; and

using the base transceiver station to perform a call anchor function for the data;

using the base transceiver station to relocate the call anchor function to a different device in the communication system during data transmission between the first and second mobile units in response to a communication characteristic of the data.

25. (Currently Amended) A communication system, comprising:

a first network;

a gateway connecting the first network to a second network;

a first mobile unit;

a base transceiver station engaged in wireless communication with the first mobile unit and carrying data being transmitted between the first mobile unit and a second mobile unit, the base transceiver station being in communication with the first network; and

~~an other communication~~ a communication device in communication with the base transceiver station over the first network, wherein a call anchor function for the data is dynamically relocated during data transmission between the first and second mobile units to one of the base transceiver station and the ~~other communication device is dynamically selected,~~ by a selection procedure, ~~to perform a call anchor function for the data,~~ the selection procedure comprising determining a communication characteristic comprising at least one of:

a traffic characteristic of the data, and

a characteristic of wireless communication between the base transceiver station and at least one of the first and second mobile units.

26. (Currently Amended) A communication system,
comprising:

a first network;

a gateway connecting the first network to a second
network;

a mobile unit;

a base transceiver station engaged in wireless
communication with the first mobile unit and carrying data
being transmitted between the first mobile unit and a second
mobile unit, the base transceiver station being in
communication with the first network;

a communication device in communication with the base
transceiver station over the first network, wherein one of the
base transceiver station and the ~~other~~ communication device is
dynamically selected, by a selection procedure, to perform a
call anchor function for the data, the selection procedure
comprising;

determining a communication characteristic
comprising at least one of a traffic characteristic of the
data and a characteristic of wireless communication between
the base transceiver station and at least one of the first and
second mobile units ~~A system according to claim 25, wherein~~
~~the selection procedure further comprises:~~

using the communication characteristic to determine
a wireless savings amount comprising an amount of wireless
resource savings associated with performing the call anchor
function by the ~~other~~ communication device;

using the communication characteristic to determine
a backhaul cost amount comprising an amount of backhaul
resource cost associated with performing the call anchor
function by the ~~other~~ communication device;

selecting the ~~other~~ communication device if the
wireless savings amount exceeds the backhaul cost amount; and

selecting the base transceiver station if the backhaul cost amount exceeds the wireless savings amount.

27. (Original) A system according to claim 25, the selection procedure being performed for a first communication session, thereby generating a first selection result, the selection procedure being further performed for a second communication session, thereby generating a second selection result, and the first and second selection results being independent from each other.

28. (Original) A system according to claim 27, wherein the selection procedure is performed exactly once for at least one of the first and second communication sessions.

29. (Original) A system according to claim 27, wherein the selection procedure is performed at least twice for at least one of the first and second communication sessions.

30. (Currently Amended) A communication system, comprising:

a first network;

a gateway connecting the first network to a second network;

a ~~first~~ mobile unit;

a base transceiver station connected to the first network and engaged in wireless communication with the ~~first~~ mobile unit, the base transceiver station performing the steps of:

carrying data being transmitted to and from between the ~~first~~ mobile unit; ~~and a second mobile unit, and~~

performing a call anchor function for the data;

relocating the call anchor function for the data to a different device in the communication system during data transmission to and from the mobile unit in response to a communication characteristic of the data.